

The Art and Practice of Restoration

"Heaven is filling with earth's broken lives, and there is no bruised reed that the Christ cannot take and restore to glorious blessedness and beauty. Spirit can restore a life crushed by pain or sorrow and make it into a harp whose music shall be all praise. Spirit can lift earth's saddest failure up to heaven's glory." – J.R. Miller

"But resurrection is not just consolation — it is restoration. We get it all back — the love, the loved ones, the goods, the beauties of this life — but in new, unimaginable degrees of glory and joy and strength." – Timothy Keller

"True restoration takes patience, subtlety, skill, and grace ." – Paul David Tripp

Partners on the Path,

Sister Gabriel, my freshman high school World History teacher fired my imagination with tales of Egypt. She loved to tell stories of King Tut (Tutankhamun), who reigned 13 centuries before the birth of Christ. Tut's major contribution was the restoration of traditional religious practice and belief in a single deity. What would you like that to look like? What spiritual ideas have become beliefs that changed your life?

Going back to Egypt, imagine entering the Valley of the Kings in Luxor, Egypt en route to the tomb of King Tut (Tutankhamun). You're there because you heard that after centuries of being buried beneath rubble, his tomb has been breached and archeologists discovered the most remarkable and exquisite treasures and artifacts. Archeologists, intrigued by tales of the immense riches buried with Tut, had searched for a very long time and, finally, in 1922, Eureka, their dedication and hard work was rewarded with a sight beyond their imagination




Such extraordinary treasures live in you, maybe blocked from view by fear, loss, difficult experiences. Nevertheless, our spiritual work here is to restore the treasures to their rightful glory. Diamonds of joy, rubies of peace, emeralds of love, pearls of wisdom—all this and more, empowering you to taste the nectars of heaven and to enjoy the life you have been given.

One of the legacies, surprisingly enough, was to follow in his father's

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April 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 4:30pm TOPS 5pm ACA	2 10am Circle of Prayer 10:30am A Course of Love 10:30am AA 5pm Healing Hands	3 10:00am SW Vly Enlightenment Ctr Metaphysical	4 10:30am AA 6pm OA	5	6 10:30am Women's Group
7 10:30am <i>The Stone Has Been Rolled Away</i> Rev Billie Martini 11:45 Fellowship Noon Entertainment by Bravo! West Valley String Society with Cellist Sharon Nauman 12:30 Prayer Chaplain Mtg	8 4:30pm TOPS 5pm ACA	9 10am Circle of Prayer 10:30am A Course of Love 10:30am AA	10 6pm Sound Healing Meditation	11 10:30am AA 6pm OA	12	13
14 10:30am <i>Healthy, Wealthy & Wise</i> Rev Billie Martini 11:45am Fellowship	15 4:30pm TOPS 5pm ACA	16 10am Circle of Prayer 10:30am A Course of Love 10:30am AA 5pm Healing Hands	17 10:00am SW Vly Enlightenment Ctr Metaphysical	18 9am Men's Group Breakfast 10:30am AA 6pm OA	19	20
21 10:30am <i>The Restoration of Clarity: Seeing Next Right Steps & New Horizons</i> Rev Sharon Connors 11:45 Fellowship Noon Hospice of the Valley	22 4:30pm TOPS 5pm ACA	23 10am Circle of Prayer 10:30am A Course of Love 10:30am AA	24	25 10:30am AA 6pm OA	26 5:30pm Enchanted Evening Dinner, Dance, Silent Auction!!! 	27
28 10:30am <i>The Restoration of Heaven in the Earth of Your Life</i> Rev Sharon Connors 11:45am Fellowship Noon Board Mtg	29 4:30pm TOPS 5pm ACA	30 10am Circle of Prayer 10:30am A Course of Love 10:30am AA 5pm Healing Hands				

April Birthdays

4—Margie Beaty
5—Norma Dickson
11—Cate Campeau
11—Betty Jo Johnson

12—Paul Martodam
16—Alan Fields
17—Sandy Galloway
19—Marty Gonyea

24—Rev Sharon Bush
27—Shirley Bangert
27—Shirley Compau
28—Kay Nation

Mission Statement:

To teach and demonstrate principles that inspire people to live their greatest life through discovering Spirit within.

Vision Statement:

Advance spiritual growth in our community and our world by expressing love for all, acceptance of all and service to all.

Enchanted Evening Gala Dinner Dance and Silent Auction—Friday, April 26th

Come join us for a fun evening of cocktails (beer, wine, soda), dining and dancing, and an opportunity to bid at our Silent Auction on Friday April 26th at 5:30pm. Dinner this year will be catered and served with your choice of chicken or vegetarian dinner. Dessert will follow. Music will be provided by our wonderful musician and DJ Tito Valentin for your dancing pleasure. A silent auction will be held for your bidding pleasure, with a plethora of amazing items, and services to bid on. A live auction will also be conducted for an item of high value. 50/50 Raffle Tickets will be sold at the event at \$5.00 per ticket, with one winner receiving 50% of the funds collected. The winner of the 50/50 raffle must be present at the event to win.

Tickets for the event are \$30.00 pre-sale and \$35.00 at the door the evening of the event. Tickets can be purchased on Sundays after service in the church lobby starting March 24 through April 21. See Bill Cogdill and his team of volunteers to purchase tickets prior to the event on Sundays. Silent Auction donated items will be accepted each Sunday beginning March 24 through April 21, before and after the service in the church lobby. Silent Auction information forms are available in the lobby and activity center for ideas of what to donate, including an information tear off sheet that must be returned with your donation to Doug Krause and his team of volunteers at the donation table in the church lobby. ALL donations WILL BE collected and accepted by Doug Krause and his team of volunteers on Sundays only. No donations will be accepted after Sunday April 21.

If you wish to support Unity Spiritual Center in another way for this event, consider a sponsorship donation to cover the catering, decorations, etc. Our goal is to raise \$2000 to match a sponsorship donation of \$2000. See Jeri Royce for additional information about sponsorship, and donations.

Save the Dates for Two Special Fellowship Hours in April!

April 7th: Cellist Sharon Neuman is returning with **Bravo! West Valley String Society** to entertain us with Irish music during Fellowship.

April 21st: **Hospice of the Valley** Community Liaison, Patti Sheridan, RN will present their program, **What is Dementia Anyway?** Learn what changes are normal, what could be signs of dementia and what support is available.

A Course of Love Goes Beyond A Course in Miracles Tuesdays @ 10:30am Meets in the Fillmore Classroom

Crystal Bowl Sound Healing Meditation Wednesday April 10th at 6pm

Certified Sound Healing Practitioner, Yoga Teacher and Reiki Master, Emily Slonina will lead a Crystal Bowl Sound Healing Meditation. This is a public event; no yoga experience required. Bring a blanket or yoga mat and pillow if you like to lay down. And bring WATER! **Love Offering \$15.**

Month-End 12-Power Healing Meditation

We'll be taking a break during the remainder of Spring 2024. Be sure to mark your calendar for June 26th at 6pm, when our 12-Power, Sound Healing Meditation will resume.

Power of the Month: Wisdom

In April we lift up and put a prayerful focus on the power of Wisdom. It's not our job to give instructions to our Power of Wisdom. It knows what to do: guide us into the spiritual truth (like forgiveness dissolves resentment) and into right thoughts and right action.

Our part is to appreciate it and be grateful for it -- to call on it when we have choices to make and when we don't know what to do next.

Volunteer of the Month Eileen Barber

Did you realize that Eileen comes all the way from her home in Chandler to support our church ministries in so many ways? On the first Sunday of every month, she serves as our ministers' platform assistant. This is Eileen's second year as a Trustee, where she has been acting as Board Secretary, keeping minutes at all board functions. Eileen is on the Healing Hands Ministry energy healing team, which meets every other Tuesday evening. She's a great cook and helps out in the kitchen when she can. She is always willing to rise to the occasion to help out wherever needed.

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footsteps and restore the belief in One Deity. He thought it essential for heavenly living to honor one Deity.

We too honor the One God, called by many names, the creator and sustainer of life. It is not always as easy as it sounds. In my life, I defaulted in times of pain or worry or fear to giving my power to people or the outcomes that I wanted rather than letting go and letting God. There have been times when rather than seeking the Wisdom of divine guidance, I took matters into my own hands. Honoring the One God requires no false gods—no focus on the problem seeking Divine Wisdom.

Exploring the Power of Wisdom is our focus for this month as well as the idea of restoration. How do we “Restore heaven in our own hearts and contribute to it being restored in all hearts?”

Divine Wisdom is represented by the disciple James and vibrates shining yellow—think sunshine.

Love Always,
Rev. Sharon

Affirmative Prayer Workshop

The two-part workshop on Affirmative Prayer that we had planned for April has been postponed. New dates will be announced as they become known.

Women’s Group Rising Saturday, April 6th at 10:30am

This month Billie Shawl continues her presentation on Soul Journeys. Billie is introducing Rev. Lei Lanni, who will share with us the journey that she has been on this lifetime. Rev. Lei Lanni’s presentation will be followed by a potluck luncheon. All women are invited... membership not necessary.

Men’s Group Breakfast Thursday, April 18th at 9:00am

All men are invited to the Men’s Group on April 18th at Bobby’s Café, 15472 N 99th Avenue in Sun City. That’s in the strip mall at the northwest corner of 103rd & 99th Avenues. (That’s where 103rd Ave turns into Greenway.) Sign up in the sanctuary lobby or bookstore. Contact Ken Weidner with questions: KWeidner2000@yahoo.com.



We're on the Web at
www.unitysc.org

Ministers

Rev. Sharon Connors, Sr. Minister
Rev. Lei Lanni Burt, Assoc Minister
Rev. Billie Martini, Assoc. Minister

Licensed Unity Teachers

Linda Cogdill, LUT
Sandy Walker, LUT

Center Administrator

Cathy Collins

Music Team Leadership

Mollie Kidari, Director
Cathy Mannino, Assistant Director
Melvin Johnson, Choir Director

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Office Hours:

Tuesday through Thursday
8:30am to 5pm



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